

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This non-provisional patent application claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/505,980 _____, filed September 24, 2003, entitled "Interactive Educational Apparatus For Use With Vertical Surfaces" (~~Attorney Docket No. 020824-006600US~~). This U.S. Provisional Patent Application is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes.

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] One embodiment of the invention is directed to an interactive educational toy apparatus comprising: (a) an indicium containing structure including an indicium and a first attachment element; and (b) a base unit capable of being attached to a vertical surface, wherein the base unit includes (i) a housing, (ii) a receiving region adapted to receive the indicium containing structure, (iii) a processor unit in the housing, (iv) a speaker coupled to the processor unit, (v) a reader coupled to the processor unit, and (vi) a second attachment element coupled to the housing, wherein the indicium containing structure is capable of being attached to the base unit using the first attachment element and the base unit is capable of being attached to the vertical surface using the second attachment element.

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following paragraph:

[0009] Another embodiment of the invention is directed to a method of using an interactive educational toy apparatus comprising: (a) attaching ~~the~~ a base unit on a vertical surface, wherein the base unit includes (i) a housing, (ii) a processor unit in the housing, (iii) a speaker coupled to the processor unit, and (iv) a reader coupled to the processor unit; and (b) attaching the indicium containing structure including an indicium on the base unit so that the indicium containing structure is attached to the base unit and the vertical surface.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following paragraph:

[0010] Another embodiment of the invention is directed to an interactive educational toy apparatus comprising: (a) an indicium containing structure including a three-dimensional indicium and a first magnet; and (b) a base unit capable of being attached to a vertical surface, wherein the base unit includes (i) a housing, (ii) a processor unit in the housing, (iii) a memory unit coupled to the processor unit, wherein the memory unit comprises code for audio associated with the indicium, (iv) a speaker coupled to the processor unit, (v) a reader coupled to the processor unit, and (vi) a second magnet ~~and~~ adapted to attract the vertical surface so that the base unit is attached to the surface.